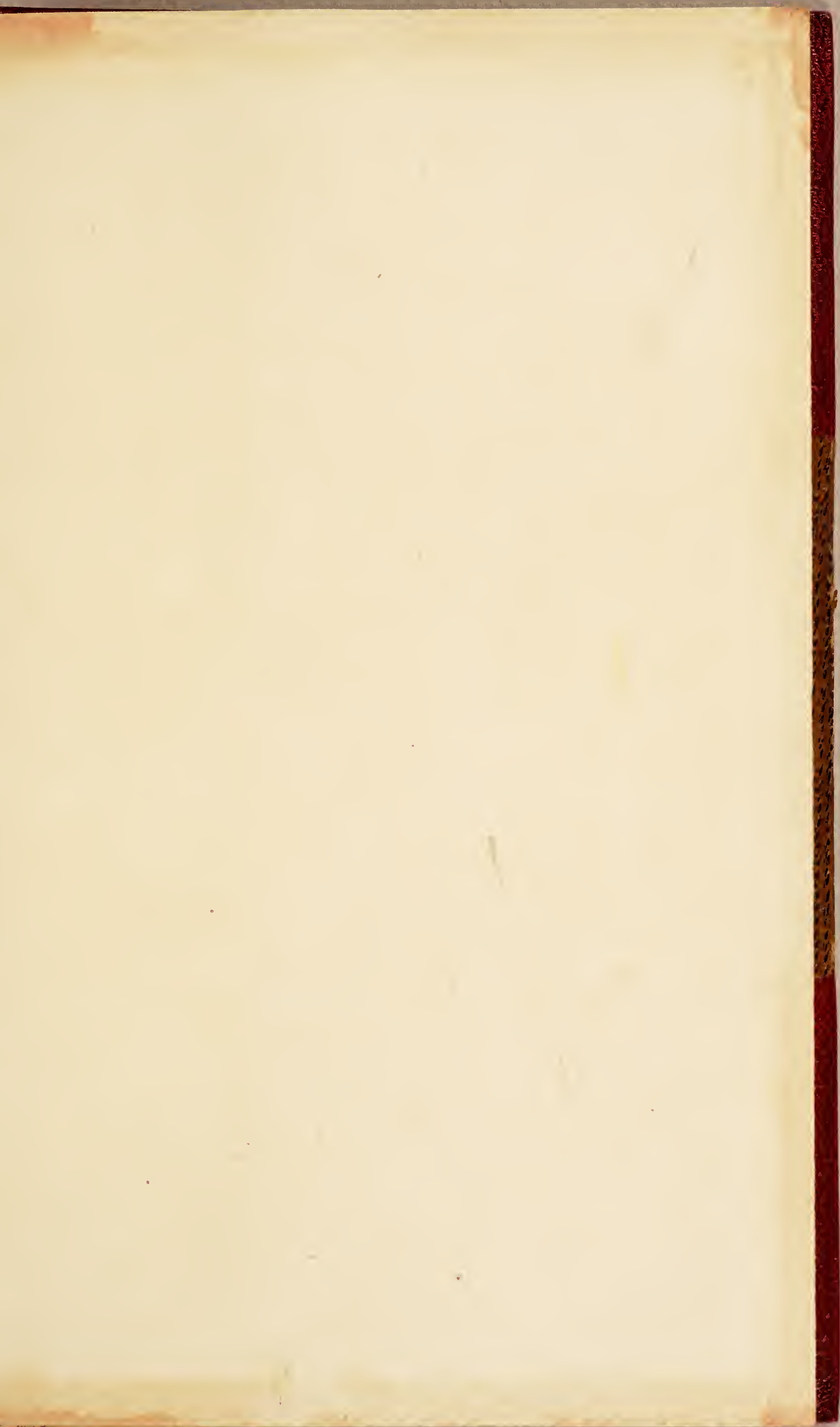


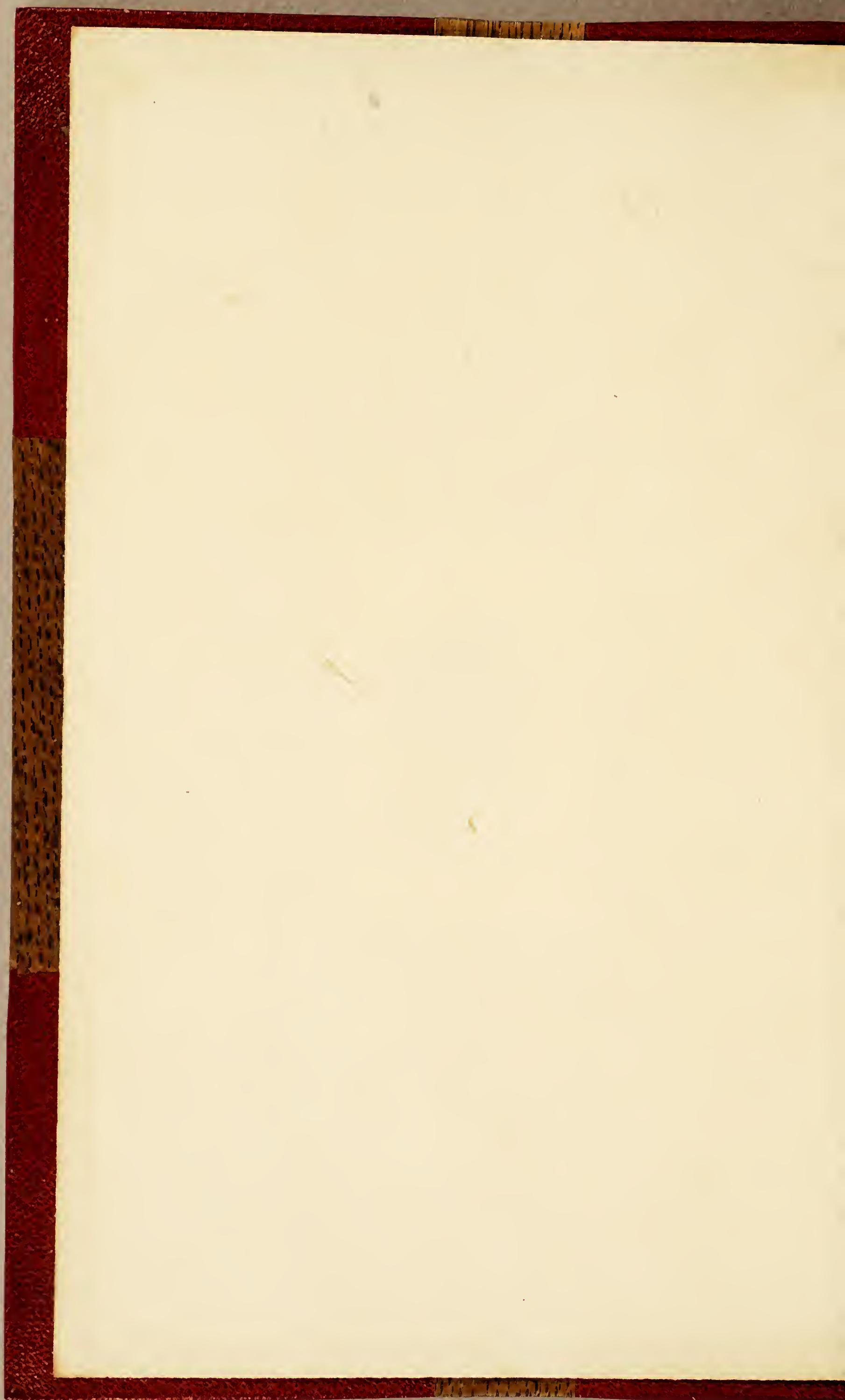


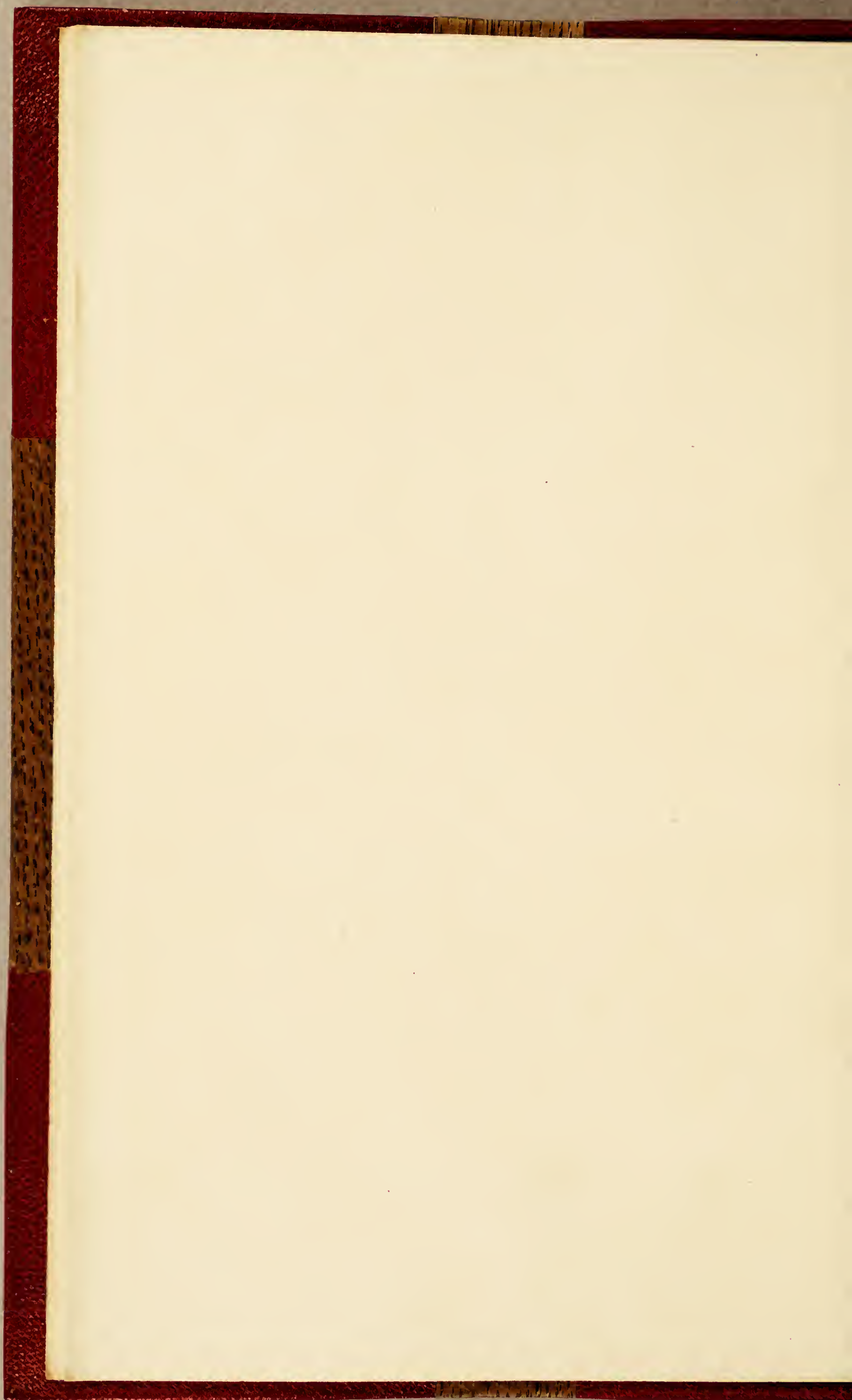
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Henry

TRAGI-COMIC
MEMOIRS

OF THE

ORIGIN, PROGRESS and EVENTS

OF OUR

PRESENT WAR against FRANCE;

AND OF THE

Succeſſive Miniſtries therein employed.

To which are added,

NATIONAL POSTULATA

ON

PATRIOT EVOLUTIONS;

Oeconomical Reforms in a royal Houſhold;

And the new political Syſtem like to take Place
among the powers of Europe.

Sunt lachrymæ rerum, & mentem mortalia tangunt.

VIRG.

Si foret in terris, rideret DEMOCRITUS.

HOR.

By a New Phænomenon in Politics.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. PRIDDEN, at the Feathers, in
Fleet-Street, near Fleet-Bridge.

M.DCC.LXII.

[Price Two Shillings.]

E R R A T A.

PAGE 21, line 11, for part, read port. P. 32, l. 18.
r. council. P. 33, l. 11, for servator, r. senator. P.
37, l. 15, for ranture, r. rapture. P. 39, l. 1, r. spite.
P. 47, l. 15. r. Hellebore. P. 58, l. 20, dele all. P. 65.
l. 15, r. these declarations.

TO

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS,

THE

DUKE of YORK.

SIR,

WHILE your Patriot Brother fills the regal throne, and, as the beloved Father of his people, is enshrined in every bosom; Your frequent excursions to diffuse rays of that happiness He is the supreme fountain of, in all those places, You honour with Your presence, quicken anew, and reinvigorate the Loyalty, Zeal and Affections of the subjects: of whom permit **ONE**, although not of the most exalted, either by place or fortune; yet **ONE** not outdone by any in unshaken and inviolable

A

Attach-

Attachment to the Royal Family, to address this feeble Essay. What first gave rise to the following sheets, in an assumed character, now, most dutifully, and not improperly, submits them to Your Royal consideration ; You being the first of Subjects, and standing next to the Throne.

Penetrated with the profoundest respect, and unfeigned veneration for Your Royal Highness,

I am, S I R,

Your most humble,

most obedient, and

most devoted servant,

The EDITOR.

H A R-

HARLEQUIN'S

ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE

PUBLICK.

YOUR patience in reading or hearing having now been so long and so unmercifully run upon, as to be nearly, if not entirely exhausted, by so many declamatory, refutatory, inflammatory, circumlocutory and objurgatory publications for and against the Great Man, as well as continental measures; however, it is ardently hoped by me, my printer and publisher, for reasons best known to ourselves, that you will, from your great goodness, welcome with a smile one adven-

turer more upon the same hackneyed subject : one who modestly makes his approaches under a quite different appearance from any of his grave, long-eared, affinine predecessors, who had brayed in so loud, and so continued a discordance, as that most ears have been harshly grated upon, nay, sorely rasped. I think it a duty to furnish you with soothing applications, in order to tickle up your jaded attention, and tune it anew. Wherefore, neither dwelling long upon, nor entering deeply into any point, like my variegated habit, I shall exhibit to you but a farcical patch-work, a laughable Medley from all. So having adjusted my hat, girt on my doughty blade, and given a preluding twirl or two to my head, with an explosive finger and thumb, presto, I snap into the business proposed.—Observing no scrupulous order, I shall trip it lightly upon paper, from topic to topic, as I do from scene to scene, on the stage ; equally averse from the formal stalk of buskined heroes,

heroes, or cadenced deportment of modern fine gentlemen. My principal aim is to figure off and on in the best manner my restless and mercurial disposition will permit ; that at the same time I aspire to gain for myself applause, I may afford a not altogether nugatory entertainment to my indulgent readers : and, in the old Horatian way, without method, lead them to the truth.

A N
IMPORTANT ADMONITION

To be attended to by the more than

SUPERFICIAL READERS.

AS the HARLEQUIN you are used to see on our Theatres wears an horrid fable Vizor, type of infernality, and that merited damnation to which sense and taste have long since assigned him, had their power any sway in this world, but more especially in England ; in which degenerate kingdom (as to genius) the sons of dulness presiding at every helm, by each day's exhibition, they appear to lose ground more and more ; ---- fatal symptom.——

“ Har-

“ Harlequin beware of gravity, and that dulness for which you implead others,” the alert may reply.

In answer to them, I mean to be alternately serious, and jocular, as the topics I shall glance to may require. For which end I have assumed another kind of masque, and more in the true antique taste: one profile presenting to you the weeping Heraclitus; the other, the laughing Democritus.—When on a melancholy theme, I shall turn the Heraclitus side to you, and cast a gloom all around. But when come to a jocular one, I shall nimbly whisk me about (nay, imperceptibly to the most sagacious eye) and laugh you all into a chorus of jollity; if what I advance, strike you in the same comical light it does me. If not--- why --- the natural conclusion must then be, that we do not think alike. From the modest conviction with which most authors
are

(viii)

are actuated, having first with all humility and diffidence inferred my not being in the wrong,

“ I, Sirs, shall judge you are not in the right,---

“ So, as the hour runs; good day: or good night.”——

T R A G I-

TRAGI-COMIC
MEMOIRS, &c.

IT has been time out of mind customary with polemical writers to begin their profound essays with comparisons of this sort; “As in the body natural, so in the body politic; and an hundred such:” all which I disclaim, having hit upon a much prettier, and quite new.

As the human Fœtus, even when most sound and most perfectly put together, brings with it into the world the latent seeds of that disorder, by which the so

B

happily

happily fabricated frame (if not by any violent means untimely destroyed) must finally perish: so every peace is said, however circumspectly, judiciously, and, according to the laws of nations, it may have been contrived, to always contain the undeveloped elements of the war to follow.

Thus it happened to our admirable peace-makers, the pupils, and preceptors, &c. at Aix-la-Chapelle! The settling of the limits in North-America was the political embryo which they left to be matured up into the present war.---Every reader is at liberty to make here what reflections he pleases. I have not time to dwell long upon trifles.

In consequence of the above transaction, it was truly comic to see the agents dispatched by us to Paris, in order to negotiate the matter in dispute. Our well-chosen deputies, letter-carriers, or any other
other

other name you may please to give them, being ignorant of the French language, could not speak their meaning to those sent to meet them by the French monarch; who, on their side being equally ignorant of the English, were disqualified from even asking our emissaries the simple question of what they might have to propose, or even what business they were come about.

The uncommunicative figures being presented to each other, nothing followed but inexplicable dumb show, and a real mockery of at least one of the two courts. Let penetrating minds determine which.

Upon the reciprocal ignorance of the respective languages spoken by the agents on both sides; a necessity arose of employing a new set of sub-ministers, commonly called interpreters, language-masters, &c. from their profession well calculated to decide the dispute of nations. What a state-farce!

The interpreters then at Paris (as the two great heroes since in Germany, Ferdinand and Broglia, who thoroughly understand each other) employed every artifice to distract, perplex, complicate and protract the negociation, in order to continue themselves the longer in pay, and to bring more grist to their own mills. Repeated questions were made on both sides; no satisfactory, but rather evasive answers were given on either. The late duke of Mirepoix, then ambassador of France, a nobleman to the true sense of the word, and a person of undoubted honour, was most zealous and sanguine to bring matters to an amicable conclusion, and preventing a war breaking out between the two courts. So indefatigable was he that he kept puffing and blowing like those cheek-swollen pictures of Æolus and his winds prefixed to the third Æneid, frequent cause of wonder and admiration to young masters at school.

But

But all his puffing and blowing ended in meer wind; for it had been previously resolved in some bosoms here, to abruptly rush into a war, and more in an Algerine manner, than that which had been long agreed upon by civilized people, or authorized by the laws of nations.

There was breach of faith, meer political sophistry, or rather a lack of honour in some of our then state-administrants, the regency; in the absence of our late most gracious sovereign, whose unparalleled virtues and excellent qualities long most gloriously adorned the throne.

The foul play glanced at here, is; when Mirepoix, pursuant to orders from his court, alarmed at our naval armaments, (against which at all events they were also preparing) made frequent applications to our ministry for a categorical answer, if any hostilities were intended by our arming so formidable a fleet: the
lulling

lulling answer was, “ He might assure his court, that their disposition was quite for peace; and that if hostilities were not commenced by France, they should not, by England.” Resting on this assurance, Mirepoix dispatches a courier with the news thereof to Versailles, as an encouragement to send out what troops and provisions were necessary for the support and defence of her settlements in North-America.

However, the French court not thoroughly satisfied with Mirepoix’s information, ordered M’Namara to sail with a fleet of ships of war to a certain latitude, by way of escorte to those intended for North-America; and, if in sailing thither, he should not be attacked by the fleet under Boscawen, that would be a sufficient indication of the fair and peaceable intentions of the English ministry: that in consequence he was to return home
with

with most of his fleet, leaving but the Alcide, Lis, &c. to guard the transports.

M'Namara did so.---What did Boscawen? why instead of attacking the fleet of the former, which might have been done, if his instructions had so ordered him, (for a braver officer never walked between the stem and stern of a ship,) fell upon the few convoy-ships left, an object unworthy of his fortitude and Intrepidity.

At the news of so unexpected a blow, as well as on account of his being deceived, and having misinformed his own court, baffled Mirepoix was more chafed than ever, and with anger-stretched his cheeks even to bursting; had his chariot driven, the horses all covered with foam, first to one minister, then to another. Each affected surprize, ignorance, and a not having any the least share in the cause of his complaint. Finding himself so egregiously bubbled

bubbled, he forgot his French manners, and called them *des imposteurs, canaille, pirates*, and left them, with a declaration (which he kept) of never seeing more, or even bidding Adieu to persons whom he had mistaken for men of honour; but whom the event proved to be *gens sans foi*.

At their first meeting our gentry laughed very heartily at the believing Mirepoix's expence, asking each other, "Was the silly Frenchman in as great a passion when with you, as when he was with me." Comparing notes, they found that he had treated them all alike, very Cavalierly, not to say scurvily, rather with too much indignity to be tamely put up by titled noblemen, and vicegerents of power.

However, they soon palliated that matter to themselves, by saying, "Damn his petulance, we are obliged to understand

no more of his language, than as far as it makes for us,---- When otherwise ;
mum."

All men of a buccaneering genius, and fond of adventuring in privateers, extolled the proceeding of our ministry, which was protested against in the breast of every disinterested, calm, and dispassionate man throughout these kingdoms, as a precedent of most dangerous tendency, subversive of public faith between powers, and which must ultimately throw us into an universal Pyrrhonism, or state of doubt, in regard to the right of nations ; nay, absolutely unhinge all our notions as to peace among kingdoms, that have disclaimed barbarity.

Hath one people injured another, let proper remonstrances be made by the latter to the former, and a certain time specified for the giving a satisfaction, which, if not complied with, then let,

C

the

the most dire of all necessities, War, be proceeded to, with the hitherto understood forms, previously observed.

Through all succeeding history, our commencement of this war, as well as the Prussian irruption into Saxony, both a-kin, will be heavily censured. Let us suppose ourselves in the state of the French, failing on the faith of treaties to all the ports of Europe, uninformed, not dreaming of declared hostilities ; nevertheless to be fired upon, robbed of their property, made prisoners of war, and dragged, guiltless of any crime, to pine, languish and expire in squalid country gaols ; while their disconsolate families at home, in every degree of consanguinity, friendship, and affection weep such unmerited distress.--- Here I turn the Heraclitus-side of my masque.

Humanity shudders at, starts from, and recoils at the cruel treatment. It was matter of indifference to a French-
man

man to be surprized by a Sallee Rover, the lawless natives of Tunis, or Englishmen proceeding in open violation of the established laws of nations; and their dying miserably in the prisons of either nation, no object of election, or preference.

Had our trade been thus run upon, and ravaged in the midst of a profound peace? Had our fellow-subjects been crammed into nauseous places of confinement? had every Mail brought us news of their lamentable ends, amidst the horrors of foreign confinement, sighing in vain for a return to their native home.-----

Would not our streets resound with acclamations like to that of the Trojan

*Quod genus hoc hominum, quæve hunc
tam barbara morem
Permitit Patria?*

“ What species of men must this be ?
 What a barbarous realm, which permits
 such acts of violence ! ” --- Could a French-
 man walk the streets in safety ? I fancy
 not. The general indignation would be
 just. Nay, I myself, however abhorrent
 in my nature from bloody deeds, would
 change my wooden sword to one of steel,
 and be among the foremost to cry aloud,
 “ Rise all, arm all ; let us wreak imme-
 diate vengeance on the perfidious Gaul for
 the groans and inglorious deaths of our
 dear countrymen. ” ----

But as Macbeth says,

“ Things ill begun strengthen them-
 selves by ill. ”

Hostilities, or rather depredations com-
 menced ; there was a necessity of con-
 tinuing them. Our late king returned
 hastily from Hanover, and is said not to
 have approved of such violent measures ;
 but there was then no retreating.

The

The French court, it must be owned, acted with a most contemptible supineness on so irritating an occasion, and so many repeated affronts. In such a manner it is hoped our court will never act when equally provoked; but upon a first insult given, immediately return it. Thus we should have done in regard to the Antigallican's most indisputably lawful prize: and made a seizure of ships to her amount belonging to that very part where the act of injustice was committed by an influenced tribunal.

Let it be remembered; to avoid being under a necessity of frequent repetition, that France's tamely bearing so long our taking and imprisoning her seamen, was the primar cause of disabling her naval forces, and pre-insuring the unparalleled success we have had in that department of our power.

Waving

Waving the illegality of such a warfare ; all successes thence derived, are to be solely ascribed to the first planners and executors thereof : not to any puny whipster since who may ridiculously arrogate to himself the entire merit thereof. To do justice to the ministry of that period ; upon the closest enquiry, I can find no amelioration of their plan, no amendment of their conceived and intended manner of executing it. They were unlucky in the actors they had chosen for their Drama ; and thereby failed. Like unlucky gamblers, when sick of a losing game, they were glad to throw up the cards ; another succeeded to them in power, and fortune supplied him with a better run ; that is his chief merit, which we shall see more at large as we go on.

I bound over a great many trifling incidents ; among others that absurd and ridiculous condescension of the French, to send home the Blandford, because
taken

taken prior to a formal declaration of war : as well as that of our ministry's exculpating themselves from the charge of prevarication with Mirepoix ; saying, that England should not be the first to commit hostilities, which they asserted to be a truth. For that the French were the first aggressors, because a few of their colonists and some of ours had met, wrangled, proceeded to blows, kicked, scratched, and pulled each other by the hair on the Banks of the Ohio : and that this was the stimulating cause of our undeclared operations. This is an argument of that nature which the French call *vaille que vaille*, but for which we have no term in English.

Let us now suppose, for the sake of brevity (and Brevity Polonius shrewdly insinuates to be the life of argument) that subsequent to a declaration France and England are exerting all their sinews of war.

In

In regard to our alliance with Prussia, and continental connections, I shall allude thereto but as little as possible, that matter being tumbled over by so many already ; but soberly digested, as well as executed in the most masterly and cogent manner by the author of the *Considerations*, &c. which, with his occasional remarks, I look upon to be the political Bible of the true interest of England, equally true through all preceding, as they now are, and will prove themselves through all succeeding æras to the not interested to believe otherwise.

Braddock's defeat in North-America, our statesmen had no more room to apprehend, than the French, that of Dieskau ; both by irregulars and provincials. Those two intrepid officers, in all probability, at the head of disciplined troops, in a campaign country, would have commanded as bloody a battle as hath been transmitted to us by history. The one was recommended, it is said, by his
royal

royal highness, and the other by marshal Saxe. Hence it appears, that in the military as well as in other professions, genius and superior skill can only exert themselves on suitable occasions; but that much inferior talents are better adapted for succeeding in the wild, uncultivated scenes of war; of which the East-Indies also afford us glaring instances.

How elate were the French, but how dejected were we at their taking of Port-Mahon, which afforded then matter of deep speculation to many, and since, with several, remains a very mysterious affair. So many different dishes on this subject at the same time have been served up to the public, even to nauseating; that I shall say very little thereupon, nor venture to hash it up anew, being now so obsolete and stale. I confine myself to these observations, to wit, that one commanding officer, although disculpated from the

two parental motives from which any criminality could possibly be engendered, suffered an ignominious death. The other was ennobled, although (through age, infirmity and want of the concurring assistance of many superior but absent officers, whose duty it was to be there) he was, first, guilty of some errors during the siege, such as, that of not having destroyed the suburbs, under whose cover the French made their approaches, erected and played off a battery to the garrison's great annoyance. Secondly, of not holding out the place to the last extremity, which, after Byng's defeat, might have been done even until the arrival of Hawke. The French were surprized at the cession of a place so capable of making a longer resistance. Prince Henry Wirtemberg's declaration was in terms very contemptuous of the English governor's ability.

He,

He, notwithstanding, was the mob deity of London at that time. No extravagance was omitted to do honour to his supposed transcendancy in fortitude and generalship; nay, zealous fathers have been heard to wish their daughters with child by the old gentleman, in order to transmit to their country a race of heroes from his formidable loins.

No body could be more surprized than Blakeney was at the people's universal joy on his arrival at Portsmouth, he rather dreading a rebuke, than hoping any dignity from his royal master.

But in the proportion as Byng was to be sunk down to infamy, so Blakeney was to be raised to honours; both I fear in the extreme. It must, however, be allowed that it was keeping touch with the misguided feelings of the roaring multitude.

According to a not over-nice Codex of military honour, the favourite sons of Mars never chose to take a title or distinguishing favour from a defeat, or a being worsted, however gallant their behaviour might have been on the occasion; because all such memorials must daily remind them of an event which they would wish to have fallen out otherwise. What has been usual in like mishaps, I mean in foreign countries, is to wait for the first successful atchievement of such commanders, and then to make their honours flow from that source, however small or inconsiderable. Any trifling victory being more flattering to remembrance, than a defeat however illustrious.

Agreeable to this doctrine, the plain but very military major Regan expressed himself. Having repaired to Ireland from the Spanish service, to take up arms under unfortunate James II. He on many occasions distinguished himself, but particularly by his brave defence of Charlemont,

mont, at the head of a few ragamuffins, against some of king William's best troops. He managed matters so by his manœuvres in the town, making himself appear to be infinitely more formidable than he really was, that he obtained a most flattering capitulation, and marched out of the place with all the honours of war.

The victors blushed at their concessions when they passed in review, his very small and wretched corps consisting of rather scare-crows, than militants; but acknowledged at the same time the governor's superior merit in the skillful use he had made of his Tatterdemallions.

When he repaired to the castle of Dublin, to give his majesty an account of the siege; the king received, heard him very graciously, applauded his conduct, and conferred knighthood on him. As soon as withdrawn from the royal presence, he said, to some of his intimates, " This king of ours is a very good one; he has made me a knight for losing a place.

place. I wonder, upon my soul, what he would do for me if I was after taking one for him."

This remark of Sir Teague O Regan is a shrewd one, and needs no comment. Upon the loss of Minorca no fault of the then railed at ministry who had made choice of admiral Byng chiefly at his own sollicitation, and whom the general sense of the nation looked upon at that time as the most qualified for commanding in the Mediterranean, from an early knowledge thereof under his father, whose glory derived from that very sea was deemed an incentive sufficient to stimulate the son to emulate his father's glorious expedition there.

The fault of more ships not having been sent out on that occasion, was not likewise the fault of the then ministry, but arose from an information received, that the French had not sailors to man above six ships of war; nor had they till the Genoese supplied them: and this
 sure

ture was a greater cause to declare war against that petty republic, than any hitherto assigned for rushing into one with Spain, now governed by a monarch free from all influence of intriguing women, assisted by able ministers, who are thoroughly acquainted with our system. Her coffers are full of money, her inhabitants more numerous than usual. Our late king moreover was alarmed by a false intelligence from our ever insincere friends the Dutch, (who perhaps were in the secret of the clandestine assistance to be had from Genoa) not to leave the Britannic coast unguarded; for that the French most certainly intended an invasion.----

The nation was all in an uproar.-- Several letters addressed to the people of England, had spread universal murmurings abroad; they wantonly extolling the hyper-patriotic virtue of P--t; who within doors, as well as his writing adjutants without, stormed in the same style against continental measures. They declaimed,
and

and truly, that we should sacrifice our real national interest if we embarked therein.

The clamour was so great against the then ministry, and Mr. P--t's patriotism, through the assistance of Dr. Shebbeare's writing, was risen into such a veneration among the people

“ Whose honesty they all durst swear
for,

“ Tho' not a man of them knew
wherefore.” HUD.

That the former, by mutual agreement, sneaked out of power, like the two discreet kings of Brentford, at the approach of danger. About that time an humorous print was published, representing them in councils, aswhelmed under a fallen map of Minorca, covered with cobwebs, archly implying its having been a matter quite neglected.--- Their rueful looks at each other were of the grotesque pathetic.

The

The morning after that ministry's concealed demission of power, their antagonist-coffeehouse haranguers, pamphleteers, and daily essayists were greatly incensed on hearing of the ministerial elopement.

—— To use the huntsman's phrase, "Stole away," was the word with one.---

"Damn the scoundrels, cried another."

I am a good pamphlet, printed to the last half sheet, out of pocket by them.

—— A tutored servator was under a necessity of suppressing a prepared speech for the house that day.

An interesting crisis of British patriotism arising upon us here, it is not improper to take breath a little, and a retrospect of affairs as they then stood, in order that as much as my nature and the multifarious subjects will allow, we may proceed with some, tho' distant, kind of method.

Let it not be omitted, that the retired ministry had dispatched, to repair the precipitate mistake of Braddock; and compleat their originally conceived

E

plan

plan of reducing Canada, lord Loudon; who was put at the head of the land forces. Admiral Holbourn commanded the fleet. Nothing was neglected to make their expedition succeed. Most sanguine hopes were conceived thereof by all ranks of people.

The French who had been so greatly disappointed in their almost certain hopes of taking New-York, &c. under the command of so excellent an officer as Dieskaw, a favourite of marshal Saxe, sent Montcalm with troops, in hopes of making up their loss in the miscarriage of Dieskaw.

The service rendered by Sir William Johnson, in defeating that French general, saving New-York, &c. is of infinite more advantage to the real interest of England, than all prince Ferdinand's parading and exaggerated victories in Germany; from which part of the world we scarce ever received a word of truth. All first reports of his, of the Prussian monarch's,

narch's, and the hereditary prince's conquests were of the marvellous kind, and to be equalled only by the nothingness they shrunk into. The French, to lure us to their favourite game of fighting them on the continent, avoided taking the shortest road to the relief of Saxony ; but went purposely out of their way, to strike out litigious matter of debate with the Hanoverians ; and to trample upon them, England being out of the reach of their resentment.

Honour, Humanity, gratitude to our sovereign, called out for our sending assistance to a people innocent of any aggression whatsoever, absolutely guiltless of any offence to the French, and exposed to wanton invasion, on account of their being (for once, at least, unhappily) connected with England.

His royal highness the duke of Cumberland, who had rescued these kingdoms from one invasion, and secured his father's throne, was with great propriety

commissioned to rescue that other part of the paternal dominions Hanover from devastation. Of which invaded electorate might justly be said,

Plectitur infelix alieno crimine.

Every body knows what treatment he met with on that occasion, and by whose opposition effected; by the very man who had often declared he could not find so contemptible a place as Hanover on the German map.--- What a discouragement for the Hanoverian regency, &c. to act with vigour against the French, from a natural surmise of their sovereign's little influence in England, when a commoner opposed his sending succour; or supporting his son in a proper manner.

Yet strange to tell, no sooner was the opposer promoted to the principal secretaryship of state, than he was regenerated to a new intellectual light. His *vox clamantis in civitate Londini*, the obstreperous B——f——d his noisy precursor,

cursor, his clamorous running footman in politics, having had his new ministerial idol's head close-shaven of all his former errors ; rubbed it over with strong Jamaica rum until it smoaked : and thus made to exhale all anti-germanic effluvia from his heated brain. An ointment, made up according to the Brandenburgh Dispensary, was applied, the while, to his eyes to clear up and strengthen their visual faculty.

The so treated Patient started suddenly from amongst their operating hands, as a man inspir'd, and broke out into an effusion of visionary ranture, as, " Hail, Hanover, most beautiful of realms ! England shall glory in paying tribute to thee ! thou art now the brightest jewel of the imperial diadem ! raise thy lovely head above all other thrones, dominions, and potentates ; for words adequate are not to be found either in Caractacus, or Abernethy's sermons to express thy passing beauties.--- No, no, no ;---although I have said, but
then

then, alas, I knew not what I said, that you were a mill-stone about the white neck of England: I henceforward will hang you about the yellow neck of France, and there shall you swing as long as you please.--- Buffy I shall overmatch myself; and stagger the French court by the impenetrable politics of my friendly representative S——y, whom I believe to be a far greater man than Richlieu and Mazarine, were they both combined in one. You trusty B——f——d are as great a politician; and you, my dear Sir,—— Sir Index Bibliopol are as well spoken a man as—let me think——almost——as myself; for amongst the ancients and moderns I don't know whom to compare you with. You are the two Herculean pillars of my fame, on which it is upraised, sublimed, and emblazoned."

Fortune having thus whirled him up unexpectedly to a pinnacle of power which he never expected, he has not been yet thoroughly recovered from his first
in-

intoxication. The spight she owed him was by the affairs of Rosbach, Lissa, &c. the misconduct of Richlieu, &c. to tempt him to a violation of the compact of Closter-Severn; which, had he a proper regard for consistency of character, or his country's interest, he would have invariably adhered to. Before that convention, it would have been base to decline assisting the Hanoverians; as to attempt it since was madness, and the sepulchre of all our other victories, and acquisitions. P--t was become so germanized, that he talked and dreamt of nothing else but German Measures. In his longing fits he was often heard to cry out, "What would I not give to kiss the king of Prussia's little finger, and prince Ferdinand's large---- O God, these Germans are charming folks! they'll make rare work of our men."---So they have, indeed, Mr. P--t, and thanks to you for it.

Troops,

Troops, money, every thing refused, (though in the proper time) to the duke of Cumberland, were abundantly dispatched injudiciously, quite *ex post facto*, to the unknown prince Ferdinand. The Great Man is therefore guilty of all the English lives lost, and money squandered in Germany, since the breach of the Convention. Widows, call upon him for your husbands, and children, for your fires.--- England must be in a hopeful way, when her enemy, France, and the foreign commander in chief of our armies, unpunishable by us for any misconduct, find their interest to be one and the same ; to wit, to protract the war.——France's view thereby being to exhaust us ; Ferdinand's to enrich his coffers ; and from one of the poorest German princes who ever received English pay, to become one of the wealthiest. Besides fighting the enemy, and all other hardships of campaigning, our troops have had another difficulty to struggle against, the rooted
and

and implacable animosity in all Hessian and Hanoverian bosoms, since the cruel usage they received here, when come on the friendly intent of fighting our quarrel. This ungenerous, brutal treatment was caused by the great orator's haranguing in the senate; where, with an assumed fire of patriotism, he effected our auxiliary troops, lying unhoused, and demi-frozen under all the inclemency of a winter-sky. A retaliation for which ungrateful proceeding has caused the death of many a Briton in Germany.--- Whoever was to blame; the poor soldiers were not. This is one of the many obligations his country owes the Great Man; and on this occasion his blind admirers may extol his Humanity if they please.

Another pretty article!--- The contributions raised by Broglie help towards the support of his master's troops. No contributions raised by our German chief abate one farthing of the remittances, or gets into any of our natives pockets!----

F

What

What a fine game we play there.---- Infinitely more than an equivalent for all advantages gained over the French in different parts of the world is spunged away in the support of our German connections.

That Ferdinand and Broglio act with a most friendly connivance is demonstrable. Whenever Broglio commands alone he is victorious, as at Bergen; twice against Isenbourg, &c. Is any body put over, or joined to him in command, they are surely defeated; for instance, Contades and Soubise.--- Broglio now and then (for our home-returned officers own he might have long since been master of Hanover, if that had been the end proposed) retreats before Ferdinand, to give him an opportunity of writing brilliant paragraphs for our Gazette.

It is tragi-comic to observe, how these two juggling generals play into each others hands with the lives of men, privately cartelling the mutual advantages they

they are to let each other alternately take. France finds her account in her general's. All England gets are letters of thanksgiving ; a pompous account of the gallant behaviour of our troops ; and that noble Propriety with which they let themselves be slaughtered. Ferdinand has carried the jest so far as to elevate even our taylors into heroes. Three hundred stiches were dropt in one action !

From the continued remonstrances of writers, and speakers, P--t began not to half like the so long spun out German war, which, from the first flashy successes of Prussia, he hoped to have ended long since. This joined to the down-hill situation of that monarch's affairs, he began to fear an impossibility of fulfilling his absurd engagements. The murmuring of the subjects daily increased, " our victories producing still new taxes ; what must a defeat do ;" the people justly cried. He then bethought himself of sneaking out of power ; that some

other agents might cobble up as well as they could, the awkward work he had so bunglingly carried on. He planned nothing but the wasteful reduction of Belleisle, which, before the destruction of the French navy, were right; afterwards useless.

Therefore, his business was to create tumults on purpose; as a fish troubles the water for fear of being taken himself.--- He found Prussia, Hanover, &c. hanging so like a mill-stone about his neck, that he could not get it off with credit; therefore let slip the second opportunity sportful fortune gave him of reinstating himself with the people, by accepting the humble offers of France. Pray heaven we may be able to obtain as good terms if she was sincere. If not, our acceptance would have shewed a moderation on our side, left her no evasive apology, and consequently thrown her into a perplexing dilemma,

Self,

Self, not the Nation, was the principle of P--t's actions. More commotions must be raised. "A war with Spain is the thing. All those of a privateering genius will commend my bullying spirit, and bellow through the streets in behalf of my intrepidity."—The time of provoking a Spanish war had been long since elapsed; long before the man of Tropes began to flourish about it.

What could be proposed by seizing the Galleons, &c. But a very small share belongs to the Spaniards. Would not such a piratical act make us still more odious in the eyes of Europe; certainly cause all the rich English houses in Spain to be seized upon: and, perhaps, a general massacre of our fellow-subjects there. A trifling sacrifice to our Patriot's chimerical fame!—— Might it not ultimately cause the acquisition of a new realm to the house of Bourbon? which, while an Austrian prince ruled Spain, France opposed;—now matters are changed.

The

The nobility of Portugal are in Petto, mostly embittered against their sovereign, for the public execution of D'aveiro, &c. The minds of the low, superstitious people are alienated from the court by the expulsion of the Jesuits, which they look upon as a persecution.—What effectual succour can we, or our allies, send to Portugal? The long German war defeats any such intent. We may, indeed, dispatch a few ships into the Tagus, to waste gun-powder, and terrify all the fish therein; while Spain can uninterruptedly reduce the whole kingdom, ever looked upon by her as a revolted province. She would consequently shut us out of the trade there. To lose the Spanish and Portuguese trade would, in all probability, be the (not desirable) effects of Mr. P--t's advice.

But he had always evasions ready for the people; first, in case of any disaster, to say, that he was but one of the council, should it be given into. And, secondly, if
not,

not, as he foresaw it could not by any man in his senses ; he, (as he had calculated) was to take advantage of such opposition to retire in a pet ; because the council, forsooth, would not come into his opinion. The pity of it ! he had a right to dissent from measures he did not approve.—He might as well decline going to the House of Commons, from a resentment of being opposed,—ridiculous.

We can make no vigorous Impression, nor spread a Warm Alarm in Old Spain. Can any men think of making conquests on her far distant dominions ? To all such politicians let Hellabore be prescribed.

The Patriot, if adherent to the convention of Closter-Severn, had prevented a great effusion of blood and treasure to this nation. By refusing the terms of France, he puts us under a still farther necessity of losing much more.

At one period his idolators extolled his cleverness for keeping the Spaniards well
with

with us. Now they declare him equally wonderful (surprising sagacity!) for finding they are not our friends.

The late treaty published, is what all persons of the least penetration must have long thought to be the real, the hereditary sentiments of the Bourbon monarchs, and the sole wonder is, they had not long since signed such a one.

The Patriot has emphatically told us, that America was conquered in Germany, *credat judæus Apella*. But supposing such a Paradox to be a Truth, would it have been less so under the direction of his Royal Highness, had the same money and troops been sent to him before the affair of Hastenbeck, as hath been since heaped on Ferdinand? what a saving of wealth and men to this country;---- fine effects of patriotism!

The same oracle has pronounced the administration of Walpole truly upright and national; and that his late majesty's reign (to whose royal memory he pathetically

tically groaned) the whitest æra in the British annals ; yet he owed his rise and greatness to an implacable attacking of the former : and a not over respectful behaviour to the latter, ever wanton in debasing his mother country.— *Honores mutant mores*. O rare, turn-about WILL !

Our navy's Palinurus, on whose ignorance, incapacity, &c. he used to be so lavish in abuse, he has lately discovered to be the greatest man ever presided over the marine department. All these recantations make good the old saying,—“ Live and learn !” But, however men may change, truth cannot. In all ages continental measures have been, now are, and must hereafter be baneful to England.—

The letter published in the Ledger, and thither sent by Sir J—— H——, an embryo orator, was as contemptible for its style and manner ; as detestable for its unparalleled arrogance and tendency of spreading a dangerous dissention.

G

A fer-

A servant who had deserted from (was not discarded by) his master, when his service was most wanted (according to his own opinion) instead of rebukes, meets with a noble remuneration; a title for his family; and royal regret for the withdrawing such boasted abilities.

What cause for complaint? None: but that his vanity was alarmed by the apprehension of losing his dearly beloved hobby-horse, Popularity. Here he again played too cunning for himself, and let escape a third opportunity fortune threw in his way of shewing to what height a private subject in England may be lifted by the strange occurrences of life. The address and complaining to his city admirers of the king's being environed by evil counsellors, were not most certainly made with an intent of recommending those right honourable gentlemen to the esteem of the nation.—They were wicked, nay, almost treasonable, as they flagrantly meant to excite discord, the
mother

mother of civil commotion. They call to mind the tragi-comic farce, which, in queen Elizabeth's reign, the vain and unfortunate earl of Essex played in the city.

How uncommonly ridiculous was the advertisement for the sale of seven coach-horses, the property of the right honourable, &c. Was it to draw compassion from the tender-hearted mob? or to try how far party zeal might raise their price? Surely the new-created lady, with a pension of three thousand *per annum*, was, at least, as well entitled, and better enabled to keep a set of horses, than the meer commoner's wife. Here is a new wonderful Seven added to the old ones. The Seven Sages of Greece, the Seven Champions of Christendom, and now the Seven Horses of Patriotism.

Should the same person (as it is given out) have been absent from the coronation; yet go into the city to meet and bow to the hired acclamations of an appointed populace; and be wantonly huzza'd in the

hearing, and under the royal eye; as much as to say, “There is at you monarchy: and to indirectly insinuate, what many of the (no Doubt) tutored mob were heard to audaciously say, “No P--t, no k——.” It was a proceeding equally stupid and contumacious. A man of true sense would have industriously shunned any such offensive conduct. This was nothing less than elbowing young Cæsar in his car of triumph, and disputing with him the honours of the day.

It were to be wished that this patriotic gentleman had employed half the pains he has taken to throw us into a new war, to procure a new coinage of silver, which his German war, His, since the violation of the Closter-Severn compact, more than the East-Indies have drained us of; and for want of which, the lower class of trade is so universally, and so lamentably distressed, as to threaten a general calamity to the state.—At length, O meteor of patriotism, with the laughing side of
my

my masque turned towards, I take my leave of you.

The now ministry, matters are in so fluctuating a condition, act quite on the tip-toes of caution, knowing that the son of clamour has barking agents ready stationed in all quarters of the town to raise a full cry against them, upon any, the least, even imaginary, occasion.

The Scotch complain of the shyness of their countryman; swear, he totally neglects them; is even become quite unnational. They damn P--t as the cause; as if through fear of him; who, they affect to have reason to think, does not love their country. P--t's emissaries declare, that is all a northern finesse; for that lord B—— obtains almost every thing for them; that little can be got for the English; nothing at all for the Irish; the latter having on all occasions behaved so staunch to the present family, there is no need of bribing them to fidelity: and that, moreover, lord B——'s method
of

of serving his countrymen, is through the channel of some pliant English personages, devoted tools to his service. What he is supposed to have directly refused, is procured by the others indirectly: so all appearance of partiality is saved.—This is sowing black cloth with white thread.

A Highlander and West of England man meeting lately in Pall-Mall, the latter said to the former, “I give you joy, Sawney, at your having a countryman, and of the name of Stuart, secretary of state!” The Highlander replied, “Thank you, honest John; and I think I have as much reason to give you joy, on having one from your side of the country, the son of him that had his foot in the stirrup, in the year 15, secretary of state to a king of the house of Hanover!”—They then shook hands, shrugged their shoulders, and went off together laughing,---as much as to say,--- Strange doings at court!

Finding,

Finding, on a review of my Common-place-book, (wherein I occasionally hitch the occurring reflections of each day) that many essential articles remain untouched ; or rather could not introduce themselves commodiously in the preceding part, I here press them into the public's service, under the form of NATIONAL POSTULATA: wherein a few facts already glanced at, being judged the most material to be imprinted on every unbiassed considerer's mind, are here transiently presented in a new light.

NATIONAL

NATIONAL POSTULATA.

WHETHER in the management of state affairs, he that succeeds to plans laid down by others, (who had failed solely through an unaccountable fatality in the officers they employed) should by a lucky combination of agents, not chosen through any foresight, or intuitive knowledge of his, have said plans happily carried into execution, be not like to a person at gaming, who takes up a loser's seat, and meets with a favourable run of cards? While prosperous, we have a right to be pleased with him for his fortune-fake only; but from thence we have no reason to allow him a superiority of judgment over his less fortunate predecessors. But should such a man, intoxicated by success, of which, as to himself, he was innocent, promote hazarding upon a new, desperate game, all the winnings of the night;---- Would not his partner,

bettors

bettors on his side, &c. have a right to demur, and declare off? Most certainly.

Whether it would not be highly culpable against the British constitution, for any single person to attempt an arbitrary sway over the senate, the council, and labour to keep the sovereign, as it were, in a perpetual state of minority; or for the convenient tool of his ambition, to implicitly affix his sign manual to whatever he in his great wisdom should be pleased to offer, without the concurrence or approbation of other state-officers?

Whether it will not henceforward be the interest of England, as well as of all other powers, the maritime especially, to be cautious of entering into a war with any branch of the house of Bourbon; but when necessitated thereto to declare against them all at once? because from their proximity of blood and connected interests, the concealed and indirect succours of the branch in peace, may, in effect, be more hurtful than that you are in

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war

war with. But to first waste a nation's treasure and men in a long war with one branch, then to declare against another, is the offspring of new-fangled politics.

Whether boroughs, towns, corporations, &c. addressing a subject for the important service of "deserting his master," when he had need of his advice, be not, in the first place, highly affrontful to their representatives in the senate, and disrespectful to a patriot king; from whom alone, as the fountain of honour, the desired approbation and recompence for national services, are to be derived? and, whether the encourager, receiver, and thanks-returner for such misguided addresses, be not guilty of a presumption unbecoming a subject, and doth not affect a kind of *imperium in imperio*, that may foil all the lustre of the British throne in the eyes of foreigners, who scarce see any thing else in our news-papers; and which must appear to them, what it really is, a most ridiculous proceeding.

Whether

Whether, if the Hydra of Jacobitism were to rise up anew, in the animated and walking Pavement of Oxford, the most effectual method to abet that long defeated party, would not be to provoke many powers, particularly those of the Bourbon Alliance; by overbearing, bullying, and other aggressive acts, compel them to undertake a cause, which, to their political system, has never been an object of serious attention.—The young Chevalier of St. George being with the now king of Spain; the then young Don Carlos, at Naples, in a royal Galley; the former's hat was blown over-board: the latter said. "Cousin, you have lost your hat." "No; answered he, smiling, it is gone before me to England." "Mine shall bear it company," replied the other, and threw his over.

Whether men of turbulent dispositions, and daring views, be not the most unfit to steer the helm of any state. They occasion

holidays for the mob by rending the very vitals of the nation's interest.

Whether any more exalted ingredients be requisite in a statesman, supposing him first endowed with a goodness of heart, than, a moderate share of knowledge in the branches of his department; a moderate share of honesty to acquit himself fairly of all his private and public contracts; a moderate share of temper, never to lose sight of the subordination necessary for the support of government: making him at the same time behave with a proper politeness and deference to those born his superiours, and to deport himself with a becoming condescension, and undegrading affability, to those below him; to wit, artists, tradesmen, servants, &c.—Does a certain much-talked of patriot tally with these characteristics?

Whether a man, who has frequently changed his opinion, not arising from
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uninfluenced, meditative conviction, but either for pecuniary considerations, or to clear the way to the object of his ambition, ought to be relied on? If so, this would be erecting a protestant infallibility, a political papacy, to whose supreme office we must daily apply for the Guidance of our understanding, and without any shew of resistance, most passively obedient follow, as his state-vicegerentship should please to veer. Such a ruling Proteus must throw the people into a state of Pyrrhonism, as to what regards their welfare, or the reverse. Such a man's life is a chain of contradictions.

Whether it be not the highest presumption, guided by near-sighted ignorance, for any man, whose every known specimen hitherto in writing (the test of parts) plead not violently in the behalf of his genius, to take it into his unballasted head to draw wantonly after ; nay, sportively whisk about, as he pleases, k——,
 lords

lords and commons, as a Turkish Bashaw does his three tails (1).

Whether the unparalleled blundering of the French ministry, as well as of their generals, admirals, &c. has not, at least, contributed as much to our success

(1) The character of all such trafficking patriots, and popularity-hunting orators, is thus delineated in the *WISHES OF A FREE PEOPLE*, a Dramatic Poem; published by S. Hooper, in the Strand.

Nor be ye dup'd by false appearances
Of loud declaimers in the patriot strain ;
Braggarts in Speech, base recreants at the Test :
Who, what one day they storming brawl against,
Whirling, the next as strenuously embrace !

May Inconsistence badge such Veering Talkers,
Shuttle-cock heads, puff'd, vain, tumultuous hearts,
Who'd fling disgrace on a lov'd royal chief ;
Who'd blast the laurel that your country fav'd ;
Who'd o'erfet kingdoms to obtain a point,
And Mob-rais'd altars to their futile pride.

Throw to one such a Pension-lure and Title ;
How the scene shifts ! what prodiges ensue !

His Queen of Sheba lulls him to repose ;
Sooths th' acrimonious humour in his blood ;
Checks all eruptive virulence of breath.-----
The Sop-mute Cerberus is heard no more !
But fall'n to each low act of blandishment,
Fawns, licks, and woos, whom he annoy'd before !

Ah---- how fatiguing to be always One ;
'Tis more than frail mortality can bear ;
More--- more--- than Bath or London should expect---
----And Box-presenters thro' this B'lieving Isle !"

cess as the unexampled bravery of our troops, totally independent of the Guidance of any self-perfumer, in London? Therefore, we should act with prudence, as the same power that has confounded their council, may do so to ours, to humble a nation's vanity.

Whether the gentlemen we heard about town opining so strenuously for our national troops continuing in the ruinous and destructive service of Germany, would not have acted a more humane and patriot part to labour for their return. Political voluptuaries, sitting on the downy chairs of indolence, at taverns, eating and drinking luxuriously, feel not the pinching want, severe seasons, and multiplied misery our poor devoted countrymen are liable to. Great comfort, indeed, must accrue to them from bumpers of wine drunk to their brave achievements.

Whether the entering into a Spanish war, if for a pretext of withdrawing from our German connections, would
not

not be somewhat similar to a man's setting fire to his house, in order to eject a bad tenant?

Whether there be not a superstitious turn in the people of England, which necessitates them to have an idol of some sort or other; an actor, a boxer, a Canning, or a Patriot, for whom they will headlong and blindly do and swear every thing: somewhat a-kin, in temper, to one of the savage nations, whose inhabitants are never so happy as when honoured with a dish of the excrements of their adopted deity.

Whether the good people of England's illuminating, rejoicing, and exulting at pompous accounts of their victorious countrymen idly fighting, and bravely falling, to manure the fields of Germany, be not equally foolish as is the conduct of prodigal school-boys, sportively throwing their money on the water. Its skimming on the liquid surface for a while pleases them; but the pieces
soon

soon sink, and are irrecoverably lost.— Just so it is with our treasure and the many English lives squandered in Germany.

Whether the Scratch-Expeditions on the French coast have answered any other end than to prove to the Gallic government how little they have to fear from such inroads; the danger being all on our side. That against Rochfort is said to have been countermanded by an order sent in the Viper sloop.

Whether to the proceeding relative to a certain resignation may not be applied this impudent declaration of refractory Popish Bishops. First, *Athanasius contra mundum*. I by itself I; the council be damned.— Secondly, *Ego et rex meus*. “I first, the king next.” Thirdly, *A papa male informato ad papam melius informandum*. I own I have heretofore been in the wrong in my arguments against German measures; but I am now better informed. It is to be believed

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that

that no disinterested person thinks so.—
However, to lay the axe to the root,
“ Would that blessed information have
ever come, had our political Profelyte re-
mained still an unpromoted commoner ? ”

Whether it be not highly ridiculous
that he, who had so often, and so vehe-
mently inveighed against the arrogated
power of Sir Robert Walpole, for the
just reason of any person's assuming to
guide this nation, being entirely anti-
constitutional and subversive of our li-
berties ; should himself aspire to it : nay,
publish his Manifesto to the city ? Can
any man's being in or out of place alter
the nature of things ? Or, any men but
those imbruted with the grossest and most
Bæotian intellects, be led a Will o' the
Wisp dance by such a state *ignis fatuus*,
--- So that if he, from the versatility of
his veering politics, were to return to-
morrow to his former, and indisputably
true tenets ; that continental measures are
diametrically opposite to the interest of
Eng-

England ; they, good believing souls would implicitly, without enquiring, turn about and shrugging themselves in a piteous manner, sigh, “ Ay, indeed, the Great Man says true, continental measures are very bad ;--- but he, God bless him, will find a cure for all our evils.” Would he could for those he has already plunged us into, and then these nations would be very well.

Whether it was not a ridiculous affectation of disinterestedness (supposing the fact to be true) to refuse the accustomed *douceur* from a foreign subsidiary : if the recusant, at that time, had large demands on him undischarged ? It would be keeping so much money in the kingdom, and making so many tradesmen happy, by being paid. The truth hereof is doubted, (*vide* La Hoope’s Reports). However, if an over-nice sense of honour, or extreme delicacy of conscience was the cause, why did not the same influence him to return to her heirs

the considerable sum received from the dutchess of Marlborough, when he renounced opposing the measures which he had contracted to ever rise against; nay, received the premium. His getting an act of parliament to lay it aside, calls to mind a transaction in the Monkish days of this realm.—A man in narrow circumstances sold his soul to the devil (the only 'Change-Alley broker then known; but he hath since, indeed, left a numerous fry) for a large sum. The bond, according to custom, was signed with his blood. The self-sold becoming melancholy some time after, applied to a reputed saint, who, not only promised, but soon produced to him for certain sums payable to the several offices of his convent, an absolution, or release of his engagement, dispatched to him from the supreme tribunal of Paradise, signed Peter, and counter-signed Dominick, the patron of his Order.—Inasmuch as every comparison halts, *omnis comparatio claudicat,*

claudicat, it is necessary to apologize to the illustrious descendants of her Grace, that here is intended neither a squinting, nor insinuating, that she had any the least tincture of diabolicism in her composition.--- All meant here is, that a man sold himself for a certain sum which he received; and when he found no more could be got that way, repented him of his bargain; procured to himself a legislative absolution of his vow to be thereby enabled to get more money in pursuing a quite opposite doctrine to that he had first stipulated to support. This is being cleared of a, by him supposed, criminal compact, he Most disinterestedly retaining the sweets and emoluments thereof. The same actuating conscience in regard to Sardinia's monarch, should have dictated a restitution to the heirs of her Grace.——It is not even now too late, nor would they, it is to be hoped, refuse giving the patriot so brilliant an opportunity of displaying his disregard for money.

Whether

Whether they be not equally erroneous who extol Mr. P--t's abilities above all in the present or past ages; and they who totally depreciate, and deny his having any other claim to merit than time-serving prevarication, and over-weening presumption; which implies an affront to the intellects of the honourable House, in which he has so often taken the lead. In patched-coat harlequin's opinion, supposing him endowed with a proper share of modesty and diffidence, he might in any other assembly or academy, supposing the members for the greater part not devoid of talents and a necessary education, be ranked *inter mediocres*; but as matters now stand, for over-bearing, and arrogant assuming, *inter primos*. Some characters to either acquire or maintain the bastardy of fame, must first derive it from, and after continue it, in opposition.

Whether one of the most flagrant instances of the British nation's giddiness and inconstancy, hath not displayed itself

self in the universal outcry and detestation excited against one ministry, for but meaning moderately to assist Hanover, when every reason then concurred for so doing ; yet to idolize their chief opponent, when he had wriggled himself into place, and went actually greater lengths in behalf of Hanover, when too late, than the others could even have dreamt of ?

Whether the pay of the general of the British monarch's forces in Germany, was not a sufficient recompence to the before but sparingly paid lieutenant-general in the Prussian service, borrowed thence, as if we had no qualified English officer to guide an army ?—— Was he an oeconomist statesman, who could advise the farther loading of that hackneyed beast of burden for all the government-blunders of England, poor Ireland, with two thousand, five hundred pounds *per annum*, besides twenty thousand pounds Sterling cash of England, with a sword worth one thousand,---a blue ribband,--- and all for what ?---

what?--- He was surprized at Minden! had as little share in obtaining that victory as our vaunting secretary at home had. --- What mighty matters have been done for the English officers Kingsley, Walgrave, &c. whose presence of mind and good generalship prevailed?

Whether it will not always be the invariable interest of England to never interfere in continental broils, or have a dispute with any powers but those who can molest her on the sea; and on that element alone to militate.—— Because then all necessary expences of the war are laid out among the people. No necessity ensues of accumulating tax upon tax, to the very grinding of industry. Then victory and acquisitions would diffuse plenty and chearfulness through all ranks, not a perplexity and a dearth of cash as at present. The continent draining much faster than any obtained advantage can supply, an universal distrust daily gains ground, by the disappearance of our Sterling.

Sterling. Whence, to the great embarrassment of trade, scarce a note can be got discounted. All these, with many other inconveniences, derive from the man who ostentatiously said, he'd unpadlock the swords hung up by the convention of Closter-Severn. If a landing should be effected in this country, and a stop put to our artificial paper currency, which by so many millions exceeds our cash, mostly drained in German subsidies, what a deplorable plight must we be in? However, to repel such danger, we have still the conqueror of Culloden left. But I beg pardon, perhaps the would-be supreme arbiter of England would advise giving a preference to, and sending for prince Ferdinand, his general by predilection.

Whether, if these islands were non-existent, the nations on the continent would not only be necessitated, but would effectuate their mutual safety, by a political ballance: the lighter ones ever ready to

confederate and throw themselves into the scale against that which might affect to preponderate. Let us therefore leave them to so natural a conduct henceforward, and never more by immiscing in their affairs, embroil ourselves to the idle as well as irrecoverable loss of men and treasure. Let us confine our quarrels to those only, who can annoy us on our element, the sea. There we can punish all offenders, fearless of any effectual inroad from them; since without straining matters, it may be asserted, that three hundred thousand fighting men can be raised in the three kingdoms, colonies, &c. including the standing army, militia and marines: most of whom might also be disciplined to act in a double capacity of sea and landmen; and the sailors *vice versa*. This being granted, as well as the superiority of our numerous navy, let it be also considered what a train on the enemy's side is necessary to transport twenty thousand men, implements and all necessaries of war, besides,

fides, the many dangers such armaments are liable to from rocks, storms, and the delays by contrary winds: moreover, their being obliged as much as possible to sail in company, all jointly evince how little we have to dread from even a league of all the maritime powers, while we are guided by a prudent administration, and establish the truth of the following lines from the before cited poem (2).

Whether we have not reason to surmise, that the part of political spectator, which the king of Denmark hath hitherto observed, has been caused by the disrespectful manner in which he thought

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him-

(2) Rent from the nations, your superiour sway
At once provokes their Envy and Despair;
Envy, to see your glory so enhanc'd:
Despair, from impotence to shake its basis.

Menac'd invasions, like to chafing billows,
May fret, swell, foam; but dash upon your shores;
And broke 'mongst rocks in hollow murmurs die.
A short-liv'd mock'ry of Gigantic rage
To scale the throne of cloud-compelling Jove.

As unaffailable your Sea-girt-isles,
Your sons still worthy their inheritance;
Man's chief prerogative, A state of Freedom!

himself treated, by our breach of the treaty of Closter-Severn, signed by our monarch's son, and guaranteed by him his son-in-law ; in compliment to which high personages, the French generals declined what, by the usage of war, they had a right to do, the disarming the Hanoverians, &c. and for which act of courtesy, they have been so politely and humanely requited.—But as it has been all along imagined by the sagacious few, and now too glaringly appears even to the multitude ; we must make good all mischiefs arising from our then breach of faith.—According to the rules of common decency, the transgressed-against should have first exhibited their complaints to the power that guaranteed the treaty, before any hostilities should be proceeded to ; otherwise they affront the so neglected guarantee. But our state-charioteer, our popular Phaeton, having got into his unskilful hands the guiding of the reins, he has driven us with a vengeance

geance, to the sudden over-setting of himself, and the violent singeing of his mother-earth.—The reason of our recurring so frequently to this topic, is, its being the *nucleus belli*, the *summa labe*, whence the defeat of our every other victory arises.—So many thousand men lost! so many millions wasted! the wretched remains of our troops to return home without having effectuated, what all sensible people had long foretold was out of their power! we have impoverished ourselves, and to what end? to leave Hanover, Hesse, &c. under the Ban of the empire.

Whether the excuse given by the patriot's creatures be not of the weakest kind, and deserving rather of contempt than of serious refutation? However, in regard to many honest meaning people, it shall be set in a proper light. Thus they argue for him; that to be sure, the giving into German measures was wrong, but it was done to indulge the weakness of an old monarch &c. If a nation's
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interests are to be influenced either by a Minority or Dotage of intellects in princes, farewell invariable maxims of state. Why was this indulgence opposed by the same man when out; yet granted when in? In how different a manner did a Frenchman, a priest, and a courtier act towards his aged monarch Lewis the Fourteenth, relative to a favourite object, in which he wanted to be indulged? Quite different from our professor of patriotism.—The illustrious personage I allude to is Fenelon, archbishop of Cambray, and what is more, the author of *Telemachus*. When his master's ever-bigotted, but through years waning faculties, were quite terrified by Madame Maintenon's artful representations of infernal tortures for a criminal commerce; old Lewis resolved on marrying her in private (which transpired to the no small alarm of his royal progeny, courtiers, &c.) that both carnally and spiritually he might enjoy christian comfort in the catechising embraces

braces of a veteran mistress. However, to lull some reproachful doubts (as to the indignity of such a match) he applied to Pere la Chaise, confessor and a Jesuit, for advice, his society being the supposed guardians of the smooth and velvet path to heaven. The political father declined the office, by declaring himself to be but an humble regular, quite unexperienced in what was fitting for the dignity of his monarch, or the throne ; but that he looked upon Fenelon as the best [qualified among his subjects to advise his majesty upon that head (this was the fox praising the hare's flesh). The king commanded La Chaise to repair forthwith to, and inform Fenelon he would speak to him.--- The good archbishop having learned the business in question from the wary Jesuit, replied, with a smile, " Father, I have never done any injury to you, or your order, that you should have entangled me in this affair. You know, besides, the loyal and zealous veneration I have for his majesty,

jesty, as well as the great obligations I am under to madame Maintenon. But be that is it may *jacta est alea*. No motive shall warp me from the duty I owe to my king and country." He hastened to the king's apartment, who, having opened to him his intention of marrying madame Maintenon, about which he said he wanted but his advice to finally determine.--- A trying situation.--- Fenelon threw himself upon his knees;--- and thus dutifully declared: "Although the incurring your displeasure, the loss of madame Maintenon's friendship, may be the consequence; yet my fealty to you, Sire, the tender regard I have for my country's glory, jointly prompt me to assert that your marrying her would stamp an indelible blot upon your Reputation, and tarnish the diadem of France."—— Thus spoke a truly patriot subject. The king bid him rise; that he should reflect upon his opinion.--The arbitrary effect was, that in a few hours after Fenelon received a Lettre
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de Cachet to retire to his bishoprick; whence he never more returned to court.

---Glorious exile!--- In this case an old monarch might have been indulged to marry a woman, who had rendered the adviser against great service, was past child-bearing, whereby no inconveniences could arise to the royal inheritance.

----We have yet an unboasting British senator, who, when at the head of a public office of the first consequence, refused indulging his aged master in answering draughts which to him appeared anti-constitutional.----- He also refused proposing to the senate what he patriotically judged against the dignity of his country.--- Deaf to insinuations, to desert his place, because he had done his duty, he steadily waited for orders to resign.— When a part-sharer of popularity, he behaved with all the philosophic prudence of a good subject; as he was after unalarmed at the mean artifices of the man (who can bear no brother in

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the multitude's affection) to disturb and juggle him unsuspecting, unprepared, at his last election. O Fye!

Whether, having quoted the action of one man from another kingdom, worthy of being imitated ; it may not prove of public utility to quote the proceedings of another great in power from the same realm, to be held up as an object of general detestation : fully convinced nothing like to him infests Albion.--- But if a British coronet should ever be disgraced by any such, short may be his influence. The typical figure I mean is of, throughout France, detested, niggard, and parsimonious memory, the late cardinal Fleuri, whose starved and oeconomical views rose no higher than to be a pittance dealer in hospitals ; but were an absolute pest in a monarch's palace.---- A thousand masked indignities had been frequently played against him by the king's servants : so many ; that even the present Lewis, his pupil, became tired of
of

of his complaints, and bid him, at last, to busy himself no more about the affairs of the kitchen ; or trouble him more with other details of mean reforms, in which that penurious prelate's groveling soul so delighted. On one of these occasions it was, that he first perceived the wane of his authority over the young monarch ; as soon as he had begun to reflect how degenerate he had been mistaught to live from the long-established custom of all his royal predecessors, and inviolably transmitted to him by his late illustrious ancestor.— On the cardinal's death his corpse was deposited in an obscure church, by his relations, who expected that a magnificent mausoleum would be erected for him, by the king, in another, whither it should be removed. The French king's answer to an application on that head was, “ That the cardinal was already buried in too good a place for so mean-spirited a wretch ; that he never thought of him but with horror for

the irreparable injury he had done him, by having endeavoured to stamp on his young mind, such unprincely, such plebeian notions, as must make him appear contemptible to his subjects; for that the words, *basse epargne*, "mean saving," ought to be unknown to a royal ear, and for ever erased from court vocabularies." Thus Fleuri drew upon him his master's displeasure, and the hatred of the people. The latter was amply signified to him by a copious pelting of his coach with dirt in the streets of Paris, where he was never desirous of appearing after. How grating must it have been to him, or to a high officer, in any other court, prosecuting a like dirty plan, to receive a billet of this kind, "Wretched purveyor of a young king's household, we send you wrapt up in paper, five ounces of meat, the remains of our sovereign's (by you) curtailed dinner, and whom your officious meanness dishonours. Take it home, we say, to your family, as you have already

ready

ready done by the coals, which used to supply the several suppressed fire-places. We now warm ourselves by blowing in our hands.— You have made liquors of all sorts and wine as scarce about court, as in a penitential convent of professed water-drinkers :---we grope to bed in the dark. --- No body comes near us, as if we lived in the mansions of famine and pestilence.--- Old Lewis (and the characteristic of age is covetousness) would neither permit, nor hear of any such reform ; but for you to introduce it under a young monarch, when nothing should be talked of, nothing heard of but pomp, but acts of generosity. O shame, shame.--- Say, caitiff, what is all this grinding, this excluding of old servants for ? Is it to answer any public or private exigences of the state, or through a black design of making our so humanely disposed young sovereign to decline in the yet warm and filial affections of a most dutiful people ? Reform thyself ;---- farewell.”—— Such
court-

court-brokers misplaced near the person of a king, are like to malignant mists, through which the sun, shorn of his genial and diffusive rays, appears rather a disastrous glare, than a benificent luminary.--- which to forefend from among us, let us join in the Wish, from the already cited Poem ; strongly hoping, however, that no reason either has, or ever shall be given at our court for the forming of any such (3). Be it remarked, that many princes, although naturally wicked, such as Augustus, Lewis the Fourteenth, &c. yet, by an habitual munificence, have not only flourished in the
veneration

(3) May Magnanimity in Council sway,
Thence be discarded men of narrow hearts ;
Let not Oeconomy to meanness warp,
But thou Magnificence thy standard raise.
Gen'rous expending should a court emblazon ;
And splendid escorts manifest a king.
For shame ;---- debase not power to Cit-like-saving ;
Sink not a Monarch's to a Burgher's dwelling,
Since British millions you've on strangers lavish'd ;
In your profuseness let the subjects share :
The subjects, from whose industry they're rais'd !
Nor be ye thro' such penury proclaimed
Niggards at home ; and Prodigals abroad !

veneration of their subjects, but even
 have been transmitted glorious to poste-
 rity: that others, though naturally good,
 such as Claudius, Lewis the Fifteenth,
 &c. yet have sunk into an universal dis-
 regard by an erroneous frugality, which,
 in sovereigns, is a failing, ever odious to
 the people. Their fame suffers in conse-
 quence, being exhibited in the most dis-
 advantageous light by annalists; because
 niggardliness on a throne is unkingly, an
 immoral aggregate, and state-hydra.

Whether, as we turn our eyes from
 the interior management of courts, we
 may not have reason to conjecture that a
 new political system, offspring of the
 Bourbon alliance with Russia, will take
 place.---- However that of Austria hath
 served it for the present; she will sink
 in consequence, and dwindle in the
 French consideration, as all the ambi-
 tious views of that power, to extend its
 territories in the neighbourhood of the
 Rhine, can be seconded hereafter so ef-
 fectually

fectually by Russia ; as she can be in her views reciprocally by France. Besides, between the Bourbon and Russian courts there appears no probability of any clashing interests, at least, for a long period of time. Subsequent to this doctrine, the king of Prussia, and all other German princes, will become less and less the subsidiary objects of Versailles, according to her intent heretofore of sapping, undermining and finally overthrowing, thro' their venal assistance, the rival power of Austria. Colberg's being taken ought to ring the alarm bell through all Germany, to unite in her own defence against the two great powers pressing forwards, from distant quarters ; and between whose formidable approaches she appears in danger of being crushed, should her princes neglect their immediate coalescing. Britannia, however generous in her nature, is not always bound to hold forth her invincible Ægis, to shield the self-devoted from destruction.

Whether

Whether, the haughty Spaniard's affected modesty was not calculated to exasperate the other potentates of Europe against us, as if grasping at universal monarchy in marine affairs ; and the leveling his Memorial chiefly against a subject, an insolent insinuation, as if we were not under the sway of a ruling sovereign ? Whether, by their intrusive sneering in a manner, and as it were ironical behaviour, relative to our contention with France, one might not be induced to think, that the Dons, in general council assembled, had previously planned (if suffered) exhibiting England as a political bull-feast to the rest of Europe ?

Whether, notwithstanding the encreasing number of our enemies, the British (like the old Roman Spirit, which at the worst of times, was the most obstinate to refuse terms even from a successful foe) ought not thence rather derive new courage, and make the very offer of an insult be immediately chastised, before even

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any intimation thereof should reach the people? Whether, if Britannia were ever to sit inactive, tamely conscious of injuries received, such ignoble temporising (which can be advised only by dastardly souls) would not be productive of still farther disgrace, from the so encouraged offenders; a rupture with them from repeated provocations becoming at last inevitable.

Whether it would not be more eligible as more glorious upon all occasions, to let the British Lion loose to crush insolence in its infancy; self-collected in all his native strength to let him aroused, proudly stalk forth to repel and punish multitudinous menaces of confederate kingdoms; even were the Russians, with others, to encrease the hostile groupe? Soon the scared nations would flee from his awakened anger, and tremble at the imperial roar; which penetrating into the vast recesses of the deep, would thence summon his genuine alliance. This must ever be
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the effect, while steady and constitutional ministries have the direction of affairs. But quite the reverse will ensue, when men who have an itching palm for gold, or actuated by selfish views, are permitted to come near a king. Their baneful influence will over-cast the fairest appearances of things, perplex and entangle the most certain clue to success, engender discord, and dishonour victory by sacrifices to the bribed meanness of private interest, totally regardless of the general. Against the future influence of men of that stamp, none like thereto now environing our gracious Sovereign, the following from The Wishes of a Free People, should be trumpeted aloud by every tongue (4). This is the last quotation I

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shall

(4) Downfal to those who would dissention breed
 Or by inglorious, tame concessions yield,
 What (the world's wonder) your brave troops have won!
 Conquests cemented with the blood of BRITONS!
 Too high a premium to be cheaply barter'd;
 Or idly squander'd to make purses swell
 Of some low things call'd P---r's, the realm's dishonour,
 Strangers to truth, of principles devoid.
 State-hackney'd pimps, young virtue to debauch,
 Aliens from manhood, cankers of the throne,
 Foes to all worth, vile plunderers in power.

shall make from that poem ; but recommend the perusal of the whole, where-with the loyal reader, actuated with a true British spirit, cannot fail being pleased.

Whether, consistent with the long established political maxim of Europe, it would not have been more prudent in the house of Austria to have compromised the dispute with Prussia, than to have called in Russian auxiliaries. In Germany they now have footing ; to maintain which they will become principals in the war, and who shall turn them out ? That impolitic expedient to relieve from a temporary evil, is like to entail a lasting fore on Austria, as well as on the Germanic body. All the late successes against Prussia may prove to have been but a previous blaze to their general overthrow, unless the Germans firmly unite among themselves, stifle all intestine animosities, and enter into the most effectual combinations to defeat the danger brewing against them
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in Muscovy. The death of the Czarina, it is to be feared, will rather exasperate than mitigate military operations on account of Holstein. Wherefore the following appears the most obvious counter-alliance to that of the branches of Bourbon with Russia—the compacted Germanic body, its frontier on all sides well fortified; Holland, Sardinia, Denmark, and Portugal if self-defensible, with Great-Britain. The part the last has to act, is upon an invasion of any of her allies, founded on the superiority of her navy, to convey a sufficient number of troops, (not handfuls as of late) first after landing, to secure a strong hold; then to ravage provinces, cause considerable diversions, and carry off large contributions. Thus she will distress the enemy, and re-imburse all the extraordinary expences that have been laid out and that too amongst her subjects. Her floating fortresses, fraught with the destruction of the places they are sent against, by the different courses they steer (as through the
 air

air in thick sable clouds rolls the yet silent thunder) spread multiplied alarms, make fore-running terrour to scour the coasts, and fear be stationed in every redoubt, from an uncertainty where the tempest is to burst.

Whether it will not be highly expedient, as well as justifiable (the Genoese having given sufficient provocation) for Great-Britain to take the Corsicans under her protection? Besides the advantage of securing a shelter for our shipping in a plentiful island, abounding with corn, wine, oil, &c. she may train up and keep in pay several thousand natives of that island, both for her sea and land service, a ready check to, and chastiser of any Italian or other power, that should dare to offend. She in return, by initiating to trade, may make them become a rich and flourishing people, as well as an ever useful ally in the Mediterranean.

Whether it can be deemed a departure from that military spirit with which
Prussia

Prussia and Great-Britain have begun this war, should either, or both, apply for assistance to the sublime Ottoman Port ; or to the humbler Beys of Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, &c. Besides, to ease the conscience of over-scrupulous christians, scripture can be quoted to warrant Necessity's making use of every expedient for its relief and advantage. For instance, the children of Israel, the chosen people, were permitted to possess themselves of Egyptian property, and convert it to their own use. Moreover, Lewis the Fourteenth, although proud of being called the eldest son of the church, always cultivated a good understanding with his arbitrary brother of Constantinople ; and the Bourbonites have more than once benefited of Mahometan succour against Austria and the empire. For the more refined free-thinking minds may be pleaded a classic authority (of more weight with them) and of celestial origin, as transmitted to us by Virgil,

Flectere si nequeo superos Acheronta movebo.

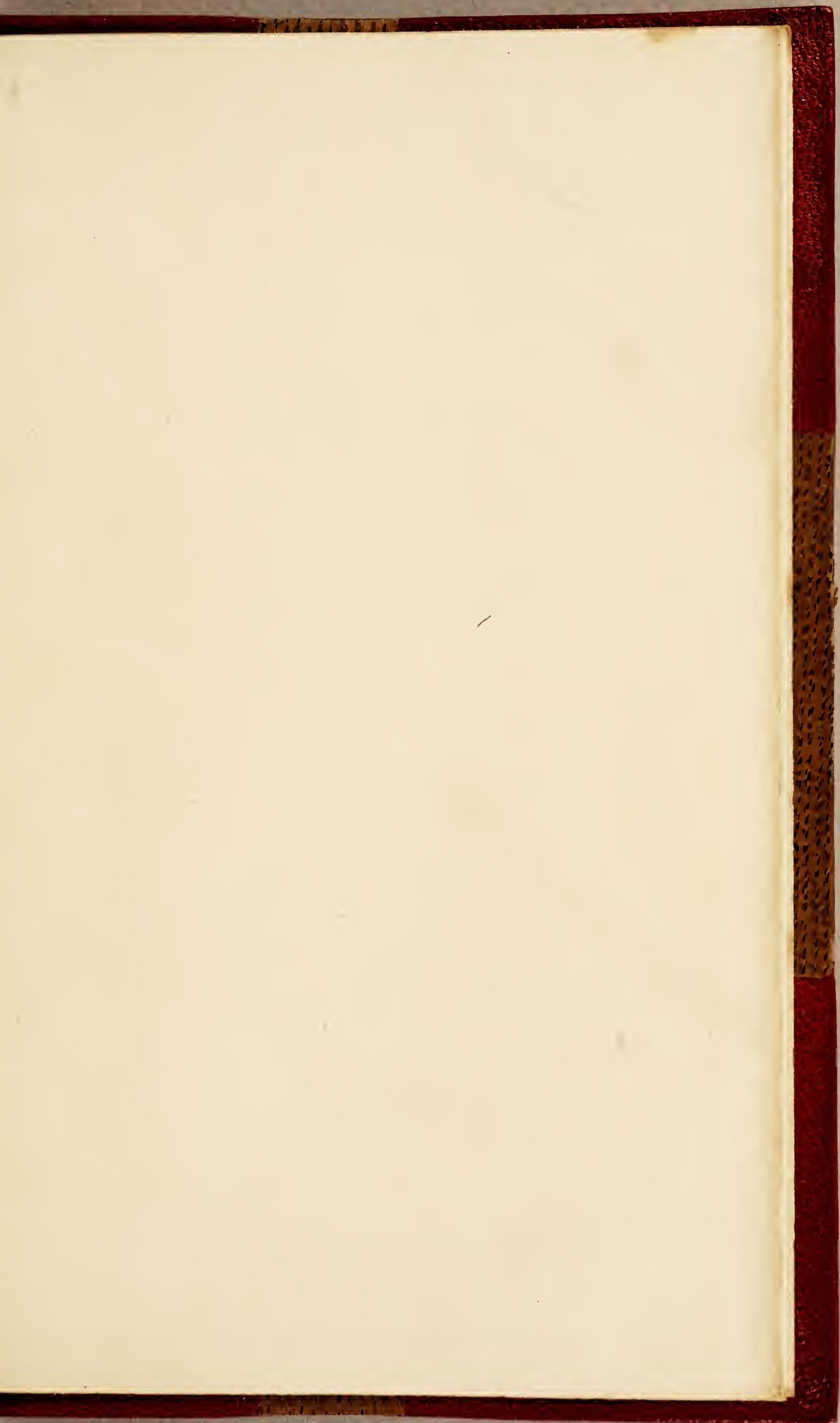
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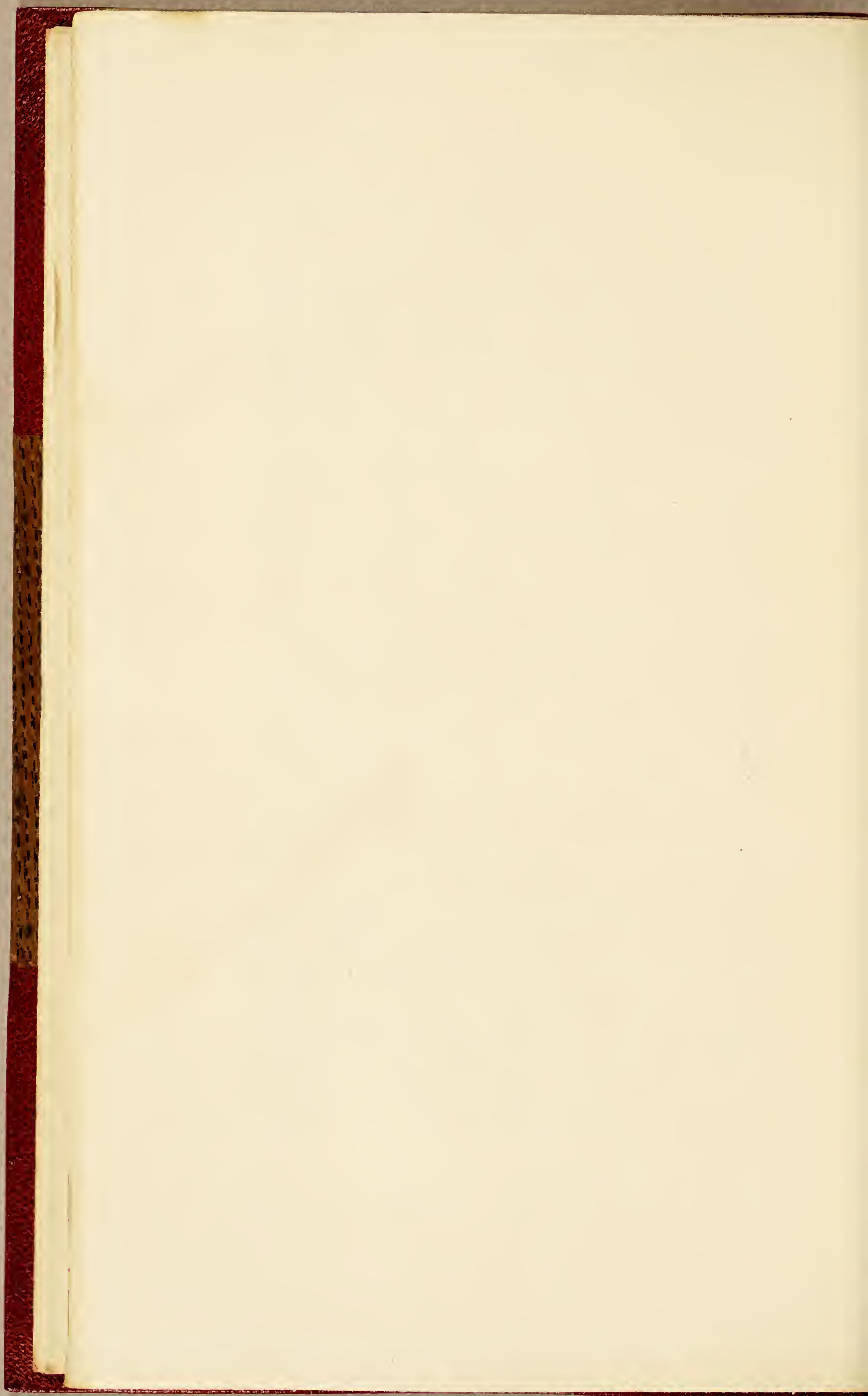
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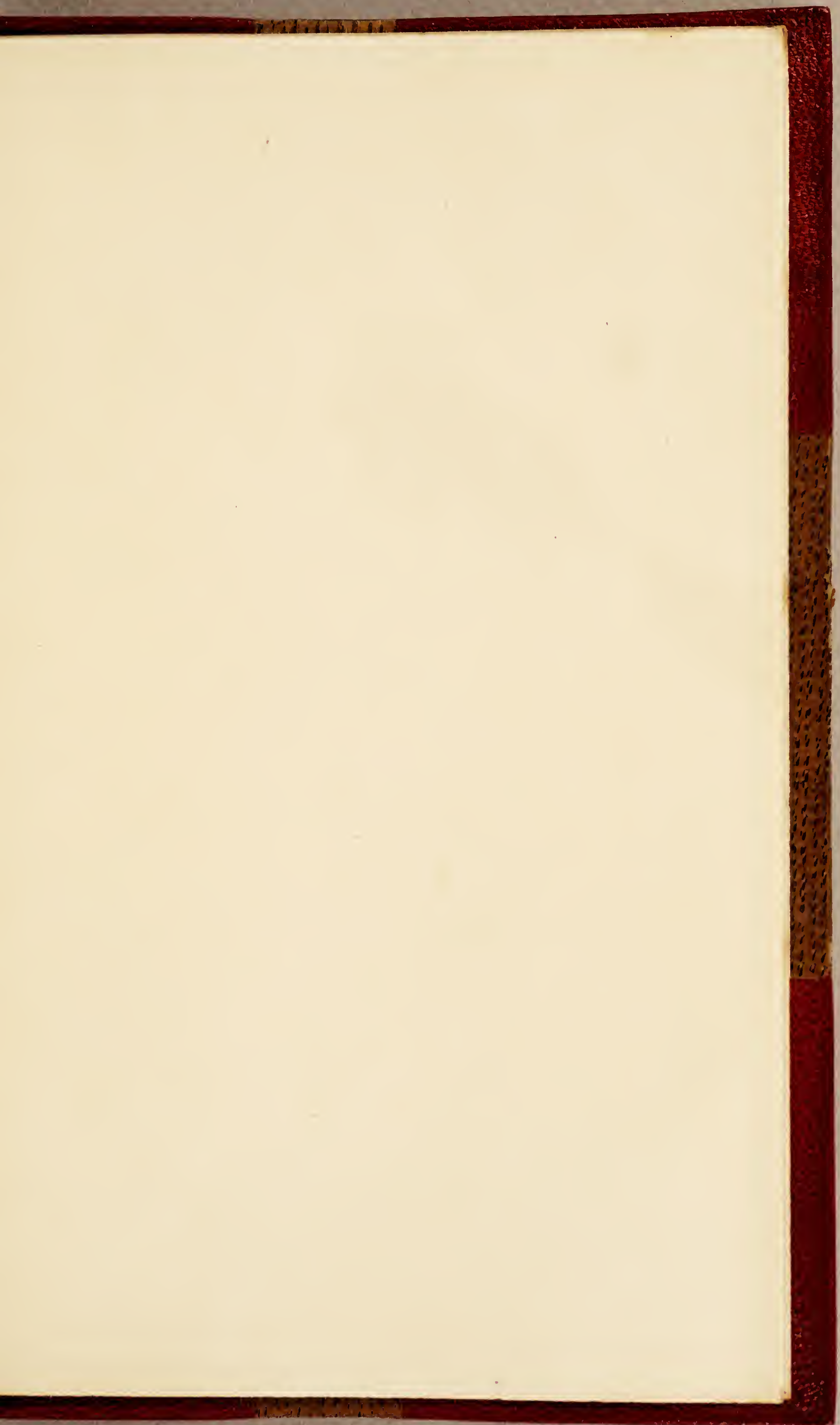
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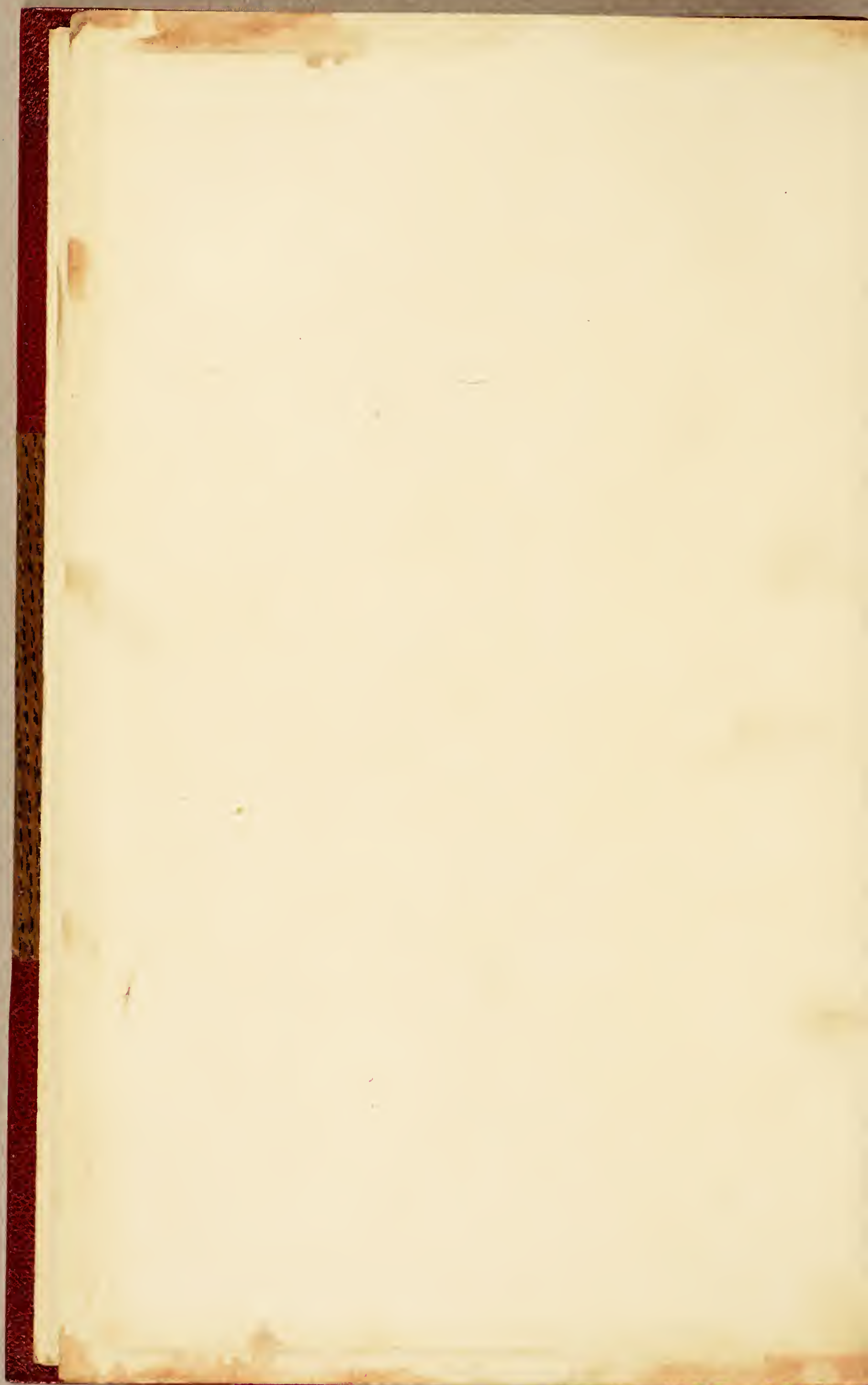
THE candid public is entreated to kindly receive the preceding Memoirs, &c. (written occasionally, and at different times, in which the good and bad of each argument is couched) as sufficient for the first essay of Harlequin, a new Phænomenon in politics: therefore, taking leave of all parties, as the custom is abroad, I give a farewell Cabriole, with hearty and fervent wishes; first, for a sage, unambitious and consistent ministry, to assist, advise, but not to guide the council. Secondly, for a glorious and triumphant period to the present complicated war, to be followed by a long, peaceful and happy reign of their Most Sacred Majesties. Thirdly, for these kingdoms prosperously flourishing through ages under an uninterrupted succession of sovereigns sprung from the illustrious house of Hanover.

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